

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EA-10

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3689

UNCLAS HONG KONG 1197

FOR EA/EX

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA HK

SUBJECT: VISITORS TO HONG KONG DURING CHINESE NEW YEAR

1. NUMBER OF PEOPLE SEEM TO BE PAYING A VISIT TO HONG KONG DURING CHINESE NEW YEAR, FEBRUARY 11, 12 AND 13, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO POINT OUT TO PROSPECTIVE VISITORS THAT ALL NORMAL ACTIVITIES NOT CONNECTED WITH NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS COME VIRTUALLY TO A HALT. GOVERNMENT OFFICES, THIS AND OTHER CONSULATES, COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATIONS, SHOPS, AND MOST RESTAURANTS WILL BE CLOSED, AND OTHER FACILITIES, E.G., TAXIS, WILL BE HARD TO FIND. MOREOVER, NEW YEAR'S WILL BE FOLLOWED BY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, WHICH IS BOTH HONG KONG AND AMERICAN HOLIDAY.
 2. WE WILL, OF COURSE, CONTINUE TO BE AVAILABLE FOR URGENT BUSINESS OF VISITORS DURING PERIOD CONCERNED, USING AMERICAN STAFF AS NECESSARY. HOWEVER, OFFICIAL VISITORS TO HONG KONG SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THIS WILL BE DIFFICULT, GIVEN UNAVAILABILITY OF NORMAL CONTACTS.
 3. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR PASSING THE WORD AS APPROPRIATE.
- CROSS

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